

## Weekly Weather Crop Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending October 19, 2003

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending October 19, 2003**. To a large extent, harvest across the State is concluding, with the exception of late planted soybeans and cotton. Much of the southern region of the State is in need of rain to aid in cool-season forage development. Soil moisture was rated 4 percent very short, 22 percent short, 63 percent adequate and 11 percent surplus.

| Progress In Percentages |                 |           |           |      |          | Conditions in Percentages |      |      |      |           |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|------|----------|---------------------------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Item                    | Event           | This Week | Last Week | 2002 | 5-Yr Avg | Very Poor                 | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
| Corn                    | Harvested       | 100       | 99        | 99   | 100      | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
| Cotton                  | Open Bolls      | 100       | 98        | 100  | 100      | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
|                         | Harvested       | 71        | 61        | 40   | 73       | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
| Rice                    | Harvested       | 97        | 94        | 89   | 95       | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
| Soybeans                | Turning Color   | 100       | 99        | 100  | 100      | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
|                         | Shedding Leaves | 99        | 96        | 99   | 99       | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
|                         | Harvested       | 89        | 82        | 68   | 80       | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
| Wheat                   | Planted         | 56        | 40        | 23   | 33       | 0                         | 1    | 17   | 64   | 18        |
|                         | Emerged         | 41        | 25        | --   | 14       | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
| Sweetpotatoes           | Harvested       | 91        | 80        | 54   | 74       | --                        | --   | --   | --   | --        |
| Cattle                  |                 |           |           |      |          | 1                         | 8    | 23   | 55   | 13        |
| Pasture                 |                 |           |           |      |          | 2                         | 14   | 32   | 44   | 8         |

### County Agent Comments

"Harvest is winding down but we are waiting on late maturity group soybeans and replanted cotton to get ready. A little rain early in the week kept producers out of the field, but most of the crops are out."

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

"Producers are busy harvesting cotton and soybeans. Corn harvest is near completion. Yields of all crops are good."

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

"Hay harvest is almost complete. Winter pastures are planted for the most part, but we are in desperate need of rain to get pastures up and growing. Cattle are beginning to lose body condition due to tough, low quality grass. Cotton harvest is proceeding well and yields are good to excellent."

— Lee Taylor, Forrest

"We need a good rain to kick off winter forage crops; otherwise, harvest conditions are great!"

— Mark Gillie, Greene

"We need rain!!! Winter forages have emerged, but need rain within the next few days because they are starting to show drought stress. There is a grub worm problem in scattered ryegrass pastures, but Sevin is being sprayed to help with control."

— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

“Rain Thursday night caused only a small delay. We got less than 0.1 inch and were back in the field by Saturday. Cotton still looks good if it will only hold up.”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Our corn harvest is complete. Most of the early planted cotton has been harvested, and with good weather this week, the balance should be picked. Cotton planted after spring rains in late May must still be picked. Only late soybeans remain to be harvested, and yields for these look good. Cool season grains and grazing crops are emerging and can still be planted.”

— Karen Benson, Attala

“Harvest is moving along nicely. Yields continue to be very good. A couple of weeks of this good weather and we will not have much left in the field.”

— Don Respass, Bolivar

“Cool weather is slowing down the cotton harvest. Late planted cotton is slow to open and defolianters are working slowly.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“Heavy rains came in early Friday morning, delaying all fieldwork. Cotton is receiving the second dose of defoliation in some fields and is still not opening very well. Soybean harvesting should pick up this week. All fall forages are looking very good.”

— Dalton G. Garner, Prentiss

“After the rain, winter wheat is looking good. Corn harvest is almost complete with above average yields. Cotton is slow to defoliate and most bolls remain unopened. There is no insect pressure.”

— Tim Needham, Tippah

“Dry weather this weekend aided in harvest resuming after a week out of the field. Interest in variety trials indicate choice of varieties for next year may be at a premium.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“Crop harvesting in Madison County is almost completed. Cotton and corn yields looks good while soybean yields are moderate to good. Pastures are also in good condition. Cool season grains and grazing crops are now emerging, and some are yet to be planted. Beef cattle are also in good condition.”

— Otis L. Davis, Madison

“Most of the early cotton has been harvested. A portion of the cotton crop that was planted after the spring rains around the end of May might not yield as much as earlier planted cotton. Cool season grains and grazing crops are emerging and some are yet to be planted.”

— Kay Emmons, Montgomery

“We are DRY, DRY, DRY!!! Winter planted forages need a good rain. Soybean harvest is about to get underway, and cattle producers are finishing up summer hay harvest.”

— Richard Hay, Amite

“A good rain is needed to get rye grass and other winter annuals up and going. Sweetpotato harvesting is over. Truck croppers need rain to get their collards and mustards really going.”

— Perry Brumfield, Lincoln

“We remain dry. Ryegrass that is germinated needs additional soil moisture for satisfactory growth. Recently planted cool season forages need moisture to avoid high seedling mortality. Many farmers are busily scrapping up the last cutting of summer hay in preparation for another poor ryegrass season. Dairy producers continue to welcome higher pay prices for their milk and collectively hope this increase will stay in effect for several months.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall

“Bean harvest is continuing after rain delays. Initial yields seem to be pretty good. Pod set and retention have been good, but bean size is disappointing. Small beans are reducing estimated yields by as much as 30 percent.”

— Victor Lee, Newton

“Rain and moderate temperatures in the high 70's to low 80's over the past several days have winter forages up and looking good.”

— Billy Joe Lee, Pearl River

“Recent rain has help to insure an excellent start for ryegrass that has recently been planted. Cotton is also completely picked with a cover crop of winter wheat slated to be planted as soon as the last 300 hundred acres of cotton is picked. With 7 to 10 days of dry weather the producers have stated that cotton will be completely harvested and preparations will be underway for a winter wheat cover crop.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

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Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>

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Mississippi Agricultural  
Statistics Service  
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Weather Summary from October 13, 2003 to October 19, 2003 for Mississippi

| District/Station | Air Temperature |     |     |      |     | Precipitation |       |           |            | 4 Inch Soil Temperature |     |     | Avg Pan Evap |
|------------------|-----------------|-----|-----|------|-----|---------------|-------|-----------|------------|-------------------------|-----|-----|--------------|
|                  | Max             | Min | Avg | Norm | DFN | One Week      | DFN   | Rain Days | Four Weeks | Max                     | Min | Avg |              |
| 1. Upper Delta   |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Charleston       | 79              | 43  | 64  | 62   | +2  | 0.00          | -0.61 | 0         | 5.38       |                         |     |     |              |
| Cleveland        | 80              | 46  | 63  | 64   | -1  | 0.04          | -0.47 | 2         | 3.48       |                         |     |     |              |
| Tunica           | 78              | 47  | 63  | 63   | 0   | 0.20          | -0.53 | 3         | 4.13       | 74                      | 59  | 65  | 0.11         |
| Extreme/Average  | 80              | 43  | 63  | 63   | 0   | 0.08          | -0.60 | 2         | 4.33       | 74                      | 59  | 65  | 0.11         |
| 2. North-Central |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Batesville       | 78              | 42  | 60  | 62   | -2  | 0.15          | -0.59 | 2         | 3.52       |                         |     |     |              |
| Calhoun City     | 77              | 41  | 62  | 62   | 0   | 0.22          | -0.41 | 3         | 5.49       |                         |     |     |              |
| Independence     | 75              | 41  | 60  | 61   | -1  | 0.10          | -0.54 | 2         | 3.27       |                         |     |     |              |
| Oxford           | 77              | 41  | 61  | 60   | +1  | 0.27          | -0.57 | 3         | 5.76       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 78              | 41  | 61  | 62   | -1  | 0.19          | -0.51 | 3         | 4.51       |                         |     |     |              |
| 3. Northeast     |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Booneville       | 76              | 49  | 61  | 61   | 0   | 1.19          | +0.48 | 3         | 5.88       |                         |     |     |              |
| Corinth City     | 79              | 41  | 61  | 63   | -2  | 0.71E         | +0.03 | 3         | 3.14E      |                         |     |     |              |
| Iuka             | 78              | 34  | 56  | 58   | -2  | 0.31          | -0.42 | 2         | 7.16       |                         |     |     |              |
| Ripley           | 75              | 40  | 58  | 60   | -2  | 1.30          | +0.60 | 2         | 4.48       |                         |     |     |              |
| Tupelo           | 78              | 45  | 64  |      |     | 0.54          |       | 3         | 5.70       |                         |     |     |              |
| Verona           |                 |     |     | 62   |     | 0.35          | -0.28 | 2         | 4.69       |                         |     |     | 0.12         |
| Extreme/Average  | 79              | 34  | 60  | 62   | -2  | 0.73          | +0.03 | 3         | 5.18       |                         |     |     | 0.12         |
| 4. Lower Delta   |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Belzoni          |                 |     |     | 65   |     | 0.00          | -0.84 | 0         | 5.00       |                         |     |     |              |
| Rolling Fork     | 81              | 45  | 64  | 64   | 0   | 0.14          | -0.74 | 2         | 2.21       | 80                      | 63  | 73  |              |
| Stoneville       | 79              | 47  | 64  | 64   | 0   | 0.11          | -0.59 | 2         | 3.98       | 78                      | 61  | 69  | 0.13         |
| Yazoo City       | 79              | 47  | 64  | 66   | -2  | 0.10          | -0.84 | 1         | 3.56       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 81              | 45  | 64  | 64   | 0   | 0.09          | -0.68 | 1         | 3.69       | 80                      | 61  | 71  | 0.13         |
| 5. Central       |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Canton           | 78              | 42  | 62  | 64   | -2  | 0.23          | -0.51 | 2         | 3.58       |                         |     |     |              |
| Carthage         | 80              | 42  | 63  | 63   | 0   | 0.07          | -0.63 | 1         | 2.91       |                         |     |     |              |
| Lexington        | 77              | 42  | 61  | 63   | -2  | 0.09          | -0.69 | 1         | 5.51       |                         |     |     |              |
| Eupora           | 79              | 40  | 61  | 62   | -1  | 0.09          | -0.68 | 2         | 3.28       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 80              | 40  | 62  | 63   | -1  | 0.12          | -0.65 | 2         | 3.82       |                         |     |     |              |
| 6. East-Central  |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Aberdeen         | 79              | 43  | 62  | 62   | 0   | 0.03          | -0.80 | 2         | 5.09       |                         |     |     | 0.10         |
| Houston          | 79              | 37  | 59  | 61   | -2  | 0.24          | -0.44 | 2         | 4.92       |                         |     |     |              |
| Louisville       | 78              | 44  | 62  | 63   | -1  | 0.13          | -0.64 | 2         | 5.68       |                         |     |     |              |
| State University | 80              | 42  | 61  | 63   | -2  | 0.45          | -0.26 | 2         | 3.70       | 74                      | 64  | 69  | 0.11         |
| Extreme/Average  | 80              | 37  | 61  | 63   | -2  | 0.21          | -0.49 | 2         | 4.85       | 74                      | 64  | 69  | 0.10         |
| 7. Southwest     |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Crystal Springs  | 80              | 45  | 67  | 66   | +1  | 0.05          | -0.65 | 1         | 1.10       | 81                      | 60  | 73  |              |
| Natchez          | 78              | 45  | 65  | 67   | -2  | 0.11          | -0.75 | 1         | 2.17       |                         |     |     |              |
| Oakley           | 79              | 42  | 65  | 64   | +1  | 0.01          | -0.74 | 1         | 3.80       | 76                      | 65  | 72  |              |
| Vicksburg        | 78              | 46  | 64  |      |     | 0.00          |       | 0         | 2.55       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 80              | 42  | 65  | 66   | -1  | 0.04          | -0.75 | 1         | 2.41       | 81                      | 60  | 72  |              |
| 8. South-Central |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Collins          | 79              | 44  | 64  | 65   | -1  | 0.00          | -0.77 | 0         | 1.83       |                         |     |     |              |
| Columbia         | 81              | 46  | 65  | 66   | -1  | 0.00          | -0.73 | 0         | 1.88       |                         |     |     |              |
| Tylertown        | 81              | 46  | 66  | 67   | -1  | 0.00          | -0.84 | 0         | 3.02       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 81              | 44  | 65  | 65   | 0   | 0.00          | -0.70 | 0         | 2.24       |                         |     |     |              |
| 9. Southeast     |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Beaumont         | 82              | 42  | 64  |      |     | 0.00          |       | 0         | 3.17       |                         |     |     |              |
| Hattiesburg      | 81              | 45  | 64  | 66   | -2  | 0.00          | -0.75 | 0         | 1.25       |                         |     |     |              |
| Laurel           | 81              | 44  | 64  | 64   | 0   | 0.00          | -0.70 | 0         | 3.79       |                         |     |     |              |
| Newton           | 80              | 40  | 62  | 63   | -1  | 0.00          | -0.74 | 0         | 4.11       | 74                      | 58  | 66  | 0.10         |
| Extreme/Average  | 82              | 40  | 63  | 65   | -2  | 0.00          | -0.63 | 0         | 3.08       | 74                      | 58  | 66  | 0.10         |
| 10. Coastal      |                 |     |     |      |     |               |       |           |            |                         |     |     |              |
| Bay St Louis     | 85              | 44  | 68  | 68   | 0   | 0.00          | -0.64 | 0         | 3.88       |                         |     |     |              |
| Gulfport         | 84              | 52  | 70  | 69   | +1  | 0.09          | -0.43 | 1         | 4.57       |                         |     |     |              |
| Pascagoula       |                 |     |     | 67   |     | 0.00          | -0.72 | 0         | 4.33       |                         |     |     |              |
| Poplarville      |                 |     |     | 67   |     | 0.00          | -0.73 | 0         | 2.95       |                         |     |     | 0.09         |
| Waveland         | 84              | 50  | 68  | 68   | 0   | 0.07          | -0.42 | 1         | 1.49       |                         |     |     |              |
| Extreme/Average  | 85              | 44  | 68  | 68   | 0   | 0.03          | -0.60 | 0         | 3.57       |                         |     |     | 0.09         |
| State            | 85              | 34  | 63  | 64   | -1  | 0.14          | -0.57 | 1         | 3.68       | 81                      | 58  | 69  | 0.12         |

DFN = Departure from Normal.